

Office of Licensing - Budget Cuts Impact Human Services

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Friday, 20 March 2009 12:27 - Last Updated Thursday, 25 June 2009 12:33



The Office of Licensing's share of the budget cut for FY2010 is \$154,800 in general funds. Although it is currently uncertain as to the total exact amount that will have to be cut from our OL budget, it will actually be significantly more than that due to the federal match dollars that will also be lost as a result of the general fund cut. What does this mean Because of the intent of the legislation, and because nearly 90% of OL budget is salaries and benefits, very simply put, it is not going to be possible to make these kinds of cuts without a reduction in force. The office will need to eliminate at least 3 positions, and likely more depending on the current salary levels of those staff that are cut.

For those who remain in the office, caseloads are already near impossible and existing staff are all very stretched as it is. This action is certainly going to increase those loads. Nevertheless, the quality of our Office of Licensing staff is exceptional, and they are dedicated to their duties and responsibilities. As such, they are committed to making any necessary adjustments and to do the very best they can to manage the increase in numbers, until such time as the State can afford to provide the resources that are needed.